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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/889,546	07/18/2001	Mitsugu Yoshihiro	450108-02834	5318

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NEW YORK, NY 10151

EXAMINER

KAPADIA, VARSHA A

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2651

DATE MAILED: 03/26/2003

41

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/889,546

Applicant(s)

YOSHIHIRO, MITSUGU

Examiner

Varsha A Kapadia

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 3.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

Information Disclosure

The information disclosure statement (IDS) submitted on July 18, 2001 has been received. The submission is in compliance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97. Accordingly, the information disclosure statement is being considered by the examiner.

Claim Objections

Claims 1-8 are objected to because of the following informalities: claims 1 and 6, for example, recite the phrases "driving means for executing reproduction and recording..." and "a buffer memory... video data to be reproduced by said driving means" are not clear to the meaning because the driving means are generally used for driving the tape/head; data are usually reproduced by the head not by the driving means. Appropriate correction is required. Furthermore, the phrase "proper value" as recited in the claims and the specification is confusing as to what is proper. It is interpreted as predetermined value.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-3 and 5-8 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Arimura et al. (5,349,479).

With regards to claims 1 5-6 and 8, Arimura et al discloses a magnetic tape recording/reproducing device comprising: driving means...a buffer memory... an interface...

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and driving control means...; and memory write/read means (see fig.1 , abstract and col.4 lines 1-24).

With regards to claims 2-3 and 7, Arimura et al further discloses that the driving control means is controlled in such a manner that, when the data quantity stored in the buffer memory is larger than the predetermined value, the video tape running speed is lowered and vice versa. (see figs. 4A and 4B and col.5 line 50 to col.6 line 64; wherein Arimura et al also discloses the capability of temporarily suspending the running of the tape and re-starting the motion of the tape again when the data in the buffer becomes higher than the set value).

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Arimura et al in view of Beavers et al (6,307,701).

With regards to claim 4, Arimura et al discloses the invention as described above in this office action. Arimura et al fails to further clarify that driving control means controls the driving means so that the video tape is returned by a fixed distance in the opposite direction to be ready for restarting the next recording after the running of the video tape temporarily brought to a stop.

Beavers et al however, disclose such a capability (see col.2 lines10-15).

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It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the recording/reproducing apparatus disclosed by Arimura et al with the above teachings from Beavers et al in order to provide a capability to return the video tape by a fixed distance, in an opposite direction to be ready to restart after it has brought to temporary stop to allow enough space to accelerate to the forward operating speed, as taught by Beavers at al.

Prior Art cited

Reference to Morita (5,969,897) cited as of interest.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Varsha A Kapadia whose telephone number is (703) 305-4198. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri from 6:00 AM to 2:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David R. Hudspeth can be reached on (703) 308-4825. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 872-9314 for regular communications and (703) 746-7423 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-4700.



VK
March 18, 2003



DAVID HUDSPETH
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600